Dear Parents and Community Members

In Our Own Backyard

Recently, I visited the Yilgarn Museum. I was shown around by Carla Della Bosca who, quite rightly, is very proud of the work the volunteers do. As I wandered through the many exhibits, the visit became a trip down memory lane. There were the reading books "Wide Range Readers" that I had read; the file of sewing projects that girls did while the boys had fun with woodwork; the washing machine and separate wringer which my mother used; the wash board and copper which I also remember her using; the manual telephone exchange of my Port Hedland and Broome days; the photos from the 70’s which were, as are mine, affected by sepia (a reddish brown colour that affected photos) and much much more. I urge you to find the time to visit.

While there, I bought a book, researched by Lance Stevens, called “YILGARN Schools, Hospitals, Police” and I would like to share in this year’s newsletters excerpts from it about our school.

Moorine Rock Primary School

Moorine Rock was originally known as Parkers Road. It got its name for being the junction of Parkers Range Goldfields Road and the Telegraph Line Road. As water was available nearby, travellers camped overnight. Parkers Road was boosted further when the Railway Dept installed a siding complete with watering facilities for steam engines. During the mid 1920’s the surrounding land was thrown open for farming and a township developed at Parkers Road to service the area. A few years later Parkers Road town name was changed to Moorine Rock because of postal confusion with Parkers Range. The history of the school is as follows:

1925 | Residents request a state school for Parkers Road. Location 289 resumed by the government for future use.
1926 | A railway cottage is utilised as a temporary school commencing 8th June 1926, the cottage providing accommodation for teacher, Miss B Armstrong. Ten students were enrolled ranging from 6 to 12 years, none having attended full time school before, although a few had travelled to Southern Cross by train for irregular schooling. As mining at Marvel Loch had slumped and the population departed, tenders were called to remove the disused school from Marvel Loch to Moorine, but the plan did not eventuate and the cottage continued to serve as a school for 10 years.
1927 | Teacher, Miss B Armstrong, with 7 students.
1928 | Teacher, Miss L Neve, with 14 students

BIRTHDAYS
Claire Birtles 28.02.16 5 years old

Happy Birthday
RAC Visit - “It’s My Elephant”

In 2015, as part of the school’s Health program, children were involved in a study of road safety. I tied this into the RAC’s promotion of “Elephant in the Wheatbelt”. The Senior class worked on drawing and painting elephants on calico and each piece became part of a quilt. This quilt was displayed at the Yilgarn Show.

A representative from the RAC saw the quilt and contacted me later to find out more about it. At the time, it was hoped that there would be some newspaper or television coverage. Obviously, this did not occur.

However, I have been contacted again and RAC are interested in using our children in the next phase of the “Elephant in the Wheatbelt” promotion called “It’s my Elephant” which will be seen from April 2016.

They will be at MRPS on Tuesday and Wednesday, 23.02.16 and 24.02.16. On the Tuesday between 3.30 PM and 6.00 PM there will be a photo shoot for four children involved in the making of the quilt in 2015. Parents of these children who will be involved on the Tuesday, will be notified separately. Parents of the four children will need to complete a Talent Release Form as they will feature in the press advertising. On the following morning, there will be some general filming and photos taken of all children involved in an “elephant” activity. These photos will be shown on the elephant’s social media pages, website etc.

Once I have further information, I will pass it on to you. However, in the meantime please complete the permission form giving permission for your child to participate. That has been sent out separately today.

Voluntary Contributions

Your voluntary contributions assist the school in providing materials to improve your child’s learning experiences. It would be fantastic if all contributions could be received during Term 1. Families may choose to send in cash, a cheque or pay by direct deposit to our ANZ BSB 016798 ACCOUNT NUMBER 253884676.

Please make sure that you identify your deposit with your child’s name to ensure that we credit it correctly.

Cleaner

Is anyone interested in doing relief cleaning?? Please ring the school on 90491176.

Students’ Stationery

Thank you to those families who have been able to send in their children’s stationery for the year. Not all stationery and books are needed immediately and those not needed will be stored in the classroom for future use.

Please ensure items are marked clearly with child’s name.
Swimming Lessons

Regards
Lyndy Richmond
Principal
Upcoming Events

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<tr>
<td>24.02.16</td>
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<td>07.03.16</td>
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<td>01.04.16</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
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Please Collect

The following items are useful for Art and other projects during the year. Please collect them and send to school.

- Buttons - all shapes, sizes and colours
- Old cake/baking pans and tins - rusty is OK
- Mosaic Tiles
- Old Keys
- Corks
- Metal Lids e.g. from chutneys, jams etc
- Cards
- Wrapping Paper
- Contact Scraps
- Magazines
- Egg Cartons
- Foam Trays
- Material

Awards

**Term 1 Week 1 2016**

- Jaden Eiffler: For settling in well to the Senior Room and trying his best in all activities.
- Judd Della Bosca: For his kindness to younger children.
- Reece Jackson: For not giving up when some activities were a bit "tricky".
Tennis Coaching

Southern Cross Tennis Club will be conducting a Junior Tennis program in February/March 2016 for 5 weeks.

Dates are Saturday 13, 20, 27 February, 12, 19 March 2016. There will be no tennis on Saturday 6 March due to the long weekend. Sessions commence at 9.00 am at the Southern Cross Tennis Courts, with registration from 8.30 am. Please wear a hat and bring your own water bottle.

Fees
$20 per Child
$50 for 3 Children
$60 for 4 plus Children
Pauline Eiffler-President 0419 963 418

GOLDFIELDS KIDSFEST IS BACK!

Save the Date as this year’s 2 day festival has been moved to Saturday 9th & Sunday 10th April! (WA’s first weekend of school holidays)

Haven’t heard of Goldfields Kidsfest, here is why it is the place to be this school holidays:

- 2 day fun filled kids festival
- Interactive activities for children aged between 0-12yrs
- Under 5’s zone
- Bouncy castles
- Kids kitchen prepare you own food
- Face painting
- Multiple Live performances (including mainstage act from a well-known kids character along with a meet and greet)
- Food vans/stalls and much more....
About 70 percent of Australian school children may suffer back pain from school bags, according to the Australian Physiotherapy Association (APA) physiotherapist Kirsty Buhlert-Smith.

Ms Buhlert-Smith said that many injuries could be avoided if students had the correct school bag for their height and weight.

“Nine out of 10 young Australians are sitting too much and not moving enough and with a new school year about to start, an easy way for children to increase their exercise is to walk or ride to school,” she said.

“However, it’s important that when children walk or ride to school that they have the correct school bag to minimise their risk of injury from backpacks.”

To protect children from backpack injuries, Ms Buhlert-Smith tells parents to ensure that:

- The backpack weighs less than 10 per cent of your child’s body weight
- The backpack must fit your child. Don’t buy a big pack to ‘grow’ into - it should be no wider than your child’s chest
- Your child should wear the load close to their spine - pack the heaviest items nearest to your child’s back and have separate backpack compartments for load distribution
- Your child should wear both straps at all times - wide shoulder straps that are comfortable and sit well on the shoulder
- Waist and chest straps help transfer some of the load to your child’s hips and pelvis
- A padded back-support allows the pack to fit ‘snugly’ to your child’s back
- Ensure your child is carrying only what they need for that day. To decrease the load, your child should have separate subject folders so they only carry what they need for homework

Parents should contact a physiotherapist if they are concerned about their child’s posture, back health or obesity and weight management related conditions, she said.

“Parents should also look for a backpack that carries an endorsement from a professional health organisation, such as APA’s endorsement of Spartan Physiopaks,” Ms Buhlert-Smith said.
Southern Cross General Practice

Dr Mark Byrne has now commenced practicing at the newly named “Southern Cross General Practice”

The opening hours for **February** are:

- **Monday**  9.00am - 5.00pm
- **Tuesday**  9.00am - 5.00pm
- **Wednesday**  CLOSED
- **Thursday**  10.00 am - 5.30pm
- **Friday**     9.00am - 5.00pm

(May open Saturday mornings if required)

The new phone number for the practice will be: **9049 1147**

but they can still be contacted on the old number, 9049 1152 for the time being.